Confidential collection No. 86/Res

year 1945-46
CB 1.2-45-82.

subject: Note on the political Disturbances in the State during August 1942 with a brief account of the political situation since then upto December 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Collection No. 86 of 45.

Year 1945—1946.

C. B. 12-45-82.

General and Revenue

Secretariat.

Confidential Branch.

SUBJECT

Note on the Political Disturbances in the State during August 1942, with a brief account of the Political Situation since then upto December 1945.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.

WD 02269—GPB—500—9-4-45

4356/CS

Note on the political disturbances (1942) and since then up to Dec 1945 2

General and Revenue Secretariat — File No. 12 of 1945. [App. F. III–2

Serial No.	
82	D. No 1941/CS. Dated 15-11-45 To the D.C. Shimoga Requests him to furnish a note on the political disturbances in the State & other occurrences in 1942 & since then up-to-date.
	Letter No. 813 & 35 — D 3-5-46 From the D.C. Shimoga Forwards a note on the political disturbances in the State during Aug 1942 with a brief account of the political situation since then up to Dec 1945. Submitted for orders. D/3/5 6/5/46 For perusal Chief Sy. Min Rev & Dewan WP 9/5/46. 9/5/46. 21/5/46. WP 21/5/46

D 4356 CS.

7583

CHIEF SECRETARY. 7. MAY 1946 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

(1691) Chief Secretary.

Some one to be placed on special duty to make a precis of occurrences in 1942. (from old records) at

that

(Dear Mr Narayana Rao,)

I am desired to request you to kindly place some intelligent and experienced Offr. ~~Official~~ on special duty and have a Concise account ~~precis~~ made of the political disturbances and other occurrences in the State in 1942 and since then up-to-date, from the old records etc. & materials available in your Office (Special Branch)

urgently

Yours Sincerely

WD
15/11/43

S. Narayana Rao Esq ma A
D.G. Police

Secy

D.O.No.1941/CB

Dy.No 2070/CB 3 4 5

15th November

URGENT & CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to request you to kindly place some intelligent and experienced officer on special duty and have a concise account made urgently of the political disturbances & other occurrences in the several parts of the State in 1942 and since then up-to-date, from the old records and materials available in your office (Special Branch).

Yours sincerely,

15/11/45

S. Narayana Rao, Esqr., M.A.,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

Confidential

5 4

G. R. S. App. F. G. 3

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation sheet draft form.*)

No 2930/CS. Date 13-3-46

To

The S.P. Police

Sir.

I am directed to invite reference to the marginal ~~noted~~ Confidential Communications from this Office and to request that ~~the~~ to them depths may be known expedited. ~~as Source of these have been pending for a long time~~

I have etc

~~Secretary~~

CPR

for Chief Secy

(1) Do No. 1941/CS of 15-11-45 calling for a Concise account of the political disturbances & other occurrences in the several parts of the State in 1942 & since then up to date etc.

(2) Do No 2188/CS of 14-12-45 Calling for a history sheet of Mr K.R. Manchana Rao showing his activities & Objectionable speeches etc.

(3) ~~Do No 2782/CS of 29-11-45~~ Do No 2151/CS of 10-12-45 Calling for a comprehensive note regarding the activities of Mr B.V. Gupta since the withdrawal in Feb 39, the order deleporting him passed against him etc

Draft sent for orders

12/1/46 for CPR 13/2

All these have been received

CPR 6/3/46

12-2-46

WD 0565—GPB—22,500—8-11-38

65

CONFIDENTIAL.

13th February 1946.

D.O.No 2930/CB

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

I am directed to invite reference to the marginally noted confidential communications from this office and to request that replies to them may be kindly expedited.

1. D.O.No.1941/C.B. dated 15.11.45, calling ~~of~~ for a concise account of the political disturbances and other occurrences in the several parts of the State in 1942 and since then up-to-date, etc.

2. D.O. No.2188/C.B. dated 14.12.45 calling for a history sheet of Mr.K.R.Madhava Rao, showing his activities and objectionable speeches etc.

3. D.O.No.2151/C.B. dated 10.12.45 calling for a comprehensive note regarding the activities of Mr. B. N. Guptha since the withdrawal in Feby. 1939, of the order of deportation passed against him, etc.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

For Chief Secretary to Govt.

2nd April 1946.

CONFIDENTIAL.

7 6

XCN03426/CB

Dear Sir,

I am desired to invite reference to my D. O. letter No.1941/C.B. dated 15th November 1945 requesting to be furnished with a concise account of the political disturbances and other occurrences in the several parts of the State in 1942 and since then, up-to-date, and to enquire when the information may be expected to be received.

Yours sincerely,

2/4/46.

S. Narayana Rao, Esqr., M.A.,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

SECRET

D. O. No. S.B. 835/45-46

8 7

S. NARAYANA RAO, Esq., M.A. (Hons.),
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

BANGALORE

Dated 3rd May 46.

XXX 57
CB.

CONFIDENTIAL
BRANCH, G. R. S.
No. 4356
Dt. 5/5/46

4/5/46

Dear Mr. Vedavyasacharya,

With reference to your D.O. letter No.1941/CB. dated 15-11-1945, I enclose herewith a note on the political disturbances in the State during August, 1942 with a brief account of the political situation since then upto December 1945.

Yours Sincerely,

S. Narayana Rao

Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

V. Vedavyasacharya, Esqr., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt.
of Mysore, BANGALORE.

REVIEW OF POLITICAL SITUATION SINCE THE 1942 - AUGUST DISTURBANCES.

August 1942

The All India Congress Committee of the Indian National Congress adopted a resolution at Bombay on the 8th August 1942 sanctioning the starting of a mass struggle on the widest possible scale and demanding the Britishers to withdraw from India immediately. On the morning of the 9th August 1942, Mahatma Gandhi and other Congress leaders of British India were arrested at Bombay, and simultaneously throughout the country, a round-up of important Congressmen took place. The events that occurred in the State subsequent to the adoption of the above resolution (otherwise called "QUIT INDIA" Resolution) by the Indian National Congress, and the consequent arrest of Congress leaders in British India, were not unexpected. To prevent wide-spread agitation and disturbances in the State, the Government of Mysore declared the All Mysore Congress Committee, the All Mysore Congress Working Committee, and the District and City Committees of the Mysore Congress as unlawful associations. Almost simultaneously important Congress leaders at Bangalore and in mufussil places were arrested and detained.

The news of the arrests of Messrs. Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and others at Bombay on the 9th August created the greatest sensation in Bangalore and Mysore Cities and other important Centres in the State. Hartal was observed almost throughout the State on the 9th and 10th August, and the students abstained from attending the educational institutions staging demonstrations and processions and shouting "Quit India" slogans. The repercussion of the arrests was equally strong among the labour population. On the morning of the 12th August, the workers of the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, Bangalore, went on strike, and the contagion immediately spread to almost all the factories in Bangalore City. By the evening of the 12th, the workers of the Government Electric Factory, Amco Factory, the Mysore Tannery, the Mysore Glass and Enamel Factory, struck work and held demonstration -

demonstrations and processions. On the 13th, there was a complete strike of all the factories in Bangalore City including the Textile Mills. On the same day, the workers of the Krishnarajendra Mills, Mysore, also went on strike.

The situation in the subsequent few days deteriorated to a considerable extent. Ticketless travel was freely indulged in by students between Davanagere and Birur, Shimoga and Birur, causing much inconvenience to the First and Second class travellers. They further caused considerable damage to the I and II Class Compartments, and dislocated the transport facilities. Tampering with telegraph and telephone facilities and removal of Railway lines became common and communication with the interior was either delayed or prevented.

With the strike of the workers of the Bangalore City Transport Service on the 15th August, the situation in Bangalore City became grave and much inconvenience was caused to the public. On the evening of the 16th August, riotous crowds - students, labourers, goondas - gathered near the Mysore Bank Square in defiance of the District Magistrate's Order banning meetings, and assemblage of persons and began to hurl stones and missiles at the Police and Military, which necessitated the opening of fire in self-defence. Tear-gas was also used on two occasions on that day. Again on the afternoon of 17th August, aggressive crowds gathered in the Avenue Road, looted an Arrack Shop and attempted to set fire to the Post Office there after cutting the telephone wires. The crowd which moved on, attacked and set fire to the City Post Office in Arcot Sreenivasachar's street, looted a Government Rice Depot, attacked the Kengeri Gate Police Station and the Cottonpet Post Office. As a result, fire had to be opened in the affected areas to bring the situation under control. In all, eleven persons were killed and sixty injured on both the days. In view

of the happenings on the 16th and 17th August and on account of the tense situation that was prevailing in the City, the - District Magistrate, Bangalore District, passed a curfew order on the 17th under Rule 53(1) of the Defence of India - Rules ordering that no person within the Municipal limits of Bangalore shall be out of doors between 7 P.M. and 6 A.M. - except under the authority of written permits. This prevented further mischief in the City and restored normal conditions promptly.

Students continued to absent themselves from Schools and Colleges in Bangalore, Mysore and other District Headquarters. The students carried on an intensive campaign of picketing - educational institutions.

The situation in the interior - particularly Tumkur, Chitaldrug and Shimoga Districts - was not altogether free from - anxiety. A number of cases of telephone and telegraph wires cutting, removing of rails and causing damage to the permanent way were reported. Violent mobs set fire to the Banavar and Tiptur Railway Stations on the 17th and 18th August as a result of which much damage was done to the Stations and Goods Shed - premises. The Davanagere Railway Station was also set fire to when a few bogies were completely burnt and the situation had - to be brought under control by opening fire by the Police and - Military, resulting in 12 casualties of which six proved to be fatal. The persons responsible for these offences were promptly traced and were tried in Courts.

On 19-8-1942, about 300 Congressmen attacked the Kodaganur Railway Station (Chitaldrug District) and set fire to the records, furniture and other railway properties causing much damage.

Meanwhile, the local Press suspended publication of their papers as a protest against the restrictions imposed by the - Government regarding the publication of news connected with - these disturbances. The situation, however, eased in the last

week of August when the workers of the Hindustan Aircraft, Limited and the Binny's Mills resumed work on the 19th and 20th August respectively while those of other Textile Mills in Bangalore City on the 21st. The Curfew Order promulgated by the District Magistrate was also withdrawn from the 25th of the same month. The workers of the Iron and Steel Works and the Paper Mills at Bhadravathi who had struck work since the 17th August, resumed work partially towards the end of the month and in the first week of September, as certain undesirable elements were externed from Bhadravathi. The students' strike however continued almost throughout the State, and cases of telephone wire cutting and telegraph wire cutting continued to be reported. Ticketless travel was also indulged in by the students who held demonstrations and meetings at places which were visited by them.

Sep. 1942

The situation during the month of September though comparatively quieter continued to cause anxiety, particularly during the last week in Hassan and Shimoga Districts. The students' strike continued during the month, though there was a slight improvement in attendance. "Quit India Day" was observed in Bangalore City on the 6th September when some Congressmen, students and workers attempted to hold demonstrations and take out processions which were promptly dispersed. The Editors of the local daily papers TAINADU, the DAILY NEWS, the VISWAKARNATAKA and JANAVANI who continuously defied the orders of the Government contained in Notification No.742/C.B. dated 10-8-1942 regarding the publication of news connected with the mass movement were arrested on the 9th under rule 41(4) of the Defence of India Rules, and produced before the City Magistrate, Bangalore, to take their trial.

The Medical School Examination which commenced on the 9th September provided an occasion for student-picketers to create commotion; and cane charges had to be resorted to, to disperse them. A few undesirable elements including a few -

outsiders carried on a pernicious propaganda against the Government and certain Government officials by publishing and distributing unauthorised bulletins called "PRANTHI", "LIBERTY", "BUGLE" etc. which resulted in the arrest of a number of students and labour leaders who were carrying on underground propaganda and helping the movement, chief among them being Srimathi Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Sukhathirtha (a student of the Engineering College), and Prabhudev, a Communist labour leader. The arrest of labour leaders was followed by the strike of labourers of the Binny's, Maharaja's and Minerva Mills at Bangalore since 21st September.

Meanwhile, the situation in the Hassan and Shimoga Districts took a graver turn. In a few shandies of the former district, Congressmen and students began to instigate people not to pay any kind of tax to the Government officials. In a few cases, they even attempted to shift the shandies from the usual places to evade payment of taxes. Destruction of toddy shops, and attack of toddy carts became common particularly in Channarayapatna and Hassan Taluks. On the evening of 24th September, firing had to be resorted to on an aggressive crowd of villagers in Dasarkoppal, Hassan Taluk, as they began to attack with missiles a Police party that went there to arrest an accused who was responsible for the destruction of a toddy cart. This resulted in two villagers being injured.

The Congress activities in Shimoga District during the week ending with 30th September took a virulent turn, extensive damage being caused to bridges, tunnels and culverts specially in Shimoga, Thirthahalli and Shikaripur Taluks. A number of Patels were coerced to tender resignations of their offices, and aggressive picketing of toddy shops was resorted to. This naturally created lawlessness particularly in Shikaripur Taluk, which culminated in the tragic death of the Amildar of that Taluk and a Sub Inspector of Police. It was reported that on the 28th September, the Amildar of Shikaripur Taluk, the Police

Inspector, Sub Inspector of Police, a Revenue Inspector and a few Constables who proceeded to Isur village to avert certain troubles in connection with the Civil Disobedience Move- - - ment were brutally attacked by the villagers, as a consequence of which the Amildar and the Sub Inspector of Police - were killed on the spot. Assistance to the injured and - apprehension of the accused were delayed due to tampering of the telegraph line, destruction of culverts and obstructions on the road by felling trees etc. The situations was, however, brought under control by the Military and the Police.

During the same period, a no-tax campaign was also reported to at Thendekere Shandy, French Rocks Taluk, and cutting of date trees and setting fire to toddy sheds were also indulged in Krishnarajpet Taluk of Mandya District. Special Police - parties supported by detachments of the Mysore State Troops - visited the troubled areas and important leaders were arrested and normal conditions were soon restored.

Towards the end of September 1942, agitation among the - students showed signs of dying down; and the attendance at - Colleges and Schools improved noticeably.

Oct. 42

During the first week of October 1942, trouble was anticipated again in Bangalore City and several parts of the State. In connection with the celebration of Gandhi Jayanthi from the 2nd to 10th, attempts were made by students and workers to take out processions and hold meetings in defiance of the prohibitory orders. But they were promptly dispersed by the Police. Twenty-three girl-students of Basavanagudi and Visweswarapuram who took out processions were arrested and prosecuted under the Defence of India Rules. Similarly, Gandhi Jayanthi was observed in several parts of the State, students and workers participating in them.

Aggressive picketing of toddy shops, tampering with telegraph and telephone wires were continued to be reported from -

several

several parts of the State. Preaching of no-tax campaign by students and Congressmen at several shandies in Hassan District took such a grave turn, that on 6-10-1942, the shandy at Shravana-belgola was attempted to be held in a place different from the one authorised and the people refused to pay the shandy fees and began to behave in a rowdy manner. Ultimately fire had to be opened on the defiant crowd resulting in 37 casualties of which 7 were fatal. One Provincial Reserve Police Constable was killed and 22 others including the Sub Division Officer and the District Superintendent of Police were injured by stone-throwing.

Shravanbelagola

During the second week of October 1942, the Congress members of the Representative Assembly abstained from attending the Assembly session at Mysore, encouraging the agitators to continue their activities.

The labour situation was also not free from anxiety. Consequent on the failure of conciliation regarding the grant of attendance bonus, the workers of the Nandidroog Mine struck work from the 1st of October 1942. On the same night an attempt was made to blow up the bridge between Andersonpet, Kolar Gold Field, by placing two sticks of gelatines with detonators, but no serious damage was caused. The strike in the Nandidroog Mine ended on the 22nd. The labour situation in Bangalore City also returned to normal when the workers of the Binny's Mills resumed work on the 15th, the Minerva Mills on the 21st and the Mysore Mills on the 28th.

During the last week of the month, attempts were made to set fire to the Principal's room of the Maharaja's College, Mysore, and to blow up a bridge at Mile 114 on the Bangalore-Dharwar road in Chitaldrug District but they were unsuccessful. On the 28th October, the staging of Railway water tanks between Arsikere-Abbanaghatta, Honnavalli and Arsikere and Arsikere and Banavar, were set fire to and completely burnt.

The Colleges and Schools opened on the 26th with a fairly

good attendance though a few College Students abstained from attending classes in sympathy with the arrested students. - There was a tendency among them to resume studies.

The attendance at Schools and Colleges showed a steady improvement in November 1942. The release of students had - had a salutary effect and a majority of them returned to - school. Stray cases of attempts at incendiarism, tampering with telephone and telegraph wires and explosions, however, continued. On the 9th of November, an attempt was made to set fire to a room in the District Offices, Bangalore, but the fire was extinguished before it could do any harm. On the night of the same day, the Chemistry Laboratory of the Malleswaram High School was broken into and some papers kept in an Almirah burnt. Some bottles and jars containing Chemicals - were also damaged. On the 29th of the same month, the brake-van in the premises of the Arsikere Railway Station was set fire to causing considerable damage to the doors and window-shutters of the van.

Nov. 42

During December 1942, Mr.A.G.Ramachandra Rao, Advocate and member of the Legislative Council, Hassan, who was responsible for shandy picketing in Hassan District and other illegal acts was arrested and detained in custody under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules.

Dec. 42

Explosions of crude bombs, particularly in the educational institutions continued. On the 9th of December 1942, there were explosions in the Engineering College and Intermediate - College at Bangalore and the Library room of the Maharaja's College, Mysore. Acts of incendiarism also continued to - occur in the interior villages. On the 12th, the wooden staging of the water column near Chitaldrug Railway Station was set fire to and completely burnt.

1943

Towards the beginning of 1943, there was definite decrease in the activities of the underground workers though there was

a recrudescence of sabotage in Chitaldrug District. With the arrest in the month of March of M.H.Shah of the Hindustan Aircraft, Ltd., and K.Prabhudev, a labour leader, who had escaped from jail, and N.D.Shankar, a Communist, who was responsible for organising strikes and committing acts of sabotage, the movement almost died out and the political situation was slowly returning to normal, though stray cases of sabotage were occurring here and there.

Mar.1943.

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1943.

In the early part of 1943 constitutional agitation began to be made for the release of Congressmen in jail. In March 1943, Mr. L.S. Raju, President of the Civil Liberties Union, Bangalore City, in a statement issued to the press urged the release of all political convicts and detenus and suggested the holding of a non-party meeting to tackle the food situation with the Congress leaders. Again in May 1943, when the Federal Court of India passed a judgment invalidating Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules, Messrs: L.S. Raju, W.H. Hanumanthappa and others issued another statement to the press appealing to the Government to release all Congressmen who had been detained in custody under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules, as they felt that "there was no justification whatsoever for such indefinite detention of Congressmen as the Mysore Congress had not passed any resolution in support of the mass struggle contemplated in the "Quit India" resolution of the Indian National Congress".

As the political situation in the State had almost returned to normal, by about the middle of 1943, the Government issued instructions to the Deputy Commissioners to release such of those detenus whose release was considered harmless. But the Congressmen were not satisfied with the Government policy, and as a mark of protest, the members of the Congress party of the Representative Assembly abstained from attending the June Session (1943) of the Assembly. On 21st June 1943, Mr. L.S. Raju issued another statement to the press observing that the concluding speech of the

Dewan-President in the R.A. Session about the release of the detenus was "very unsatisfactory and disappointing".

In connection with the celebration of the anniversary of the "Leaders' Arrest Day", the majority of the students of the several colleges in Bangalore City and Mysore abstained from attending classes on the 9th August 1943. They held public meetings and passed resolutions demanding the immediate release of all Congress leaders. On 17th August, Messrs: R.R.Keithan, an American social worker, H.R. Guruva Reddy, M.A.Gopalaswamy Iyengar, Vajapeyam Venkateshiah and a few others held a meeting and discussed about the desirability of requesting the Government to release all the detenus in jail.

In September 1943, Mr. H.C. Dasappa, an important member of the State Congress who had been convicted to suffer 18 months R.I. for having made an objectionable speech at Shimoga during 1942 and who was released on 21-8-1943 after the expiry of the term of imprisonment issued a statement to the press to the effect that there was no meaning in the Government inviting Congress members of the R.A., who were kept in prisons to attend the Dasara Session of the R.A. and at the same time not creating facilities for them to attend the Session. He contended that either the restrictions on their movements should be removed or the Government should not invite them to attend the Session. It would appear that the ulterior motive behind the statement was to goad the public to agitate and move for the release of all Congress detenus in custody. Mr. Dasappa and other members of the R.A. also sent a memorandum to the Dewan-President requesting him to release all the Assembly members who were still in jail to enable them to attend the Session. The Congress members of the Assembly- about 500 in number- attended the session, though on the first day (4-9-43) they staged a walk-out as a protest against the ruling of the Dewan-President refusing to allow Mr. V.Venkatappa, the leader of the Congress Party, to make a statement about the non-release of Congress members before the Presidential speech.

The next two months, the Congress members were busy contesting

the elections to the Bangalore and Mysore City Municipalities Towards the end of the year 1943, almost all the detenus and convicts were released from jail including important Congress leaders like Messrs: H.Siddiah, K.T.Bhashyam, K.Chengalaraya Reddy, S.Nijalingappa, L.R.Madhava Rao, N.C.Thimma Reddy, K. Hanumanthiah, T.Subramanyam and P.S.Kumaran.

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1944.

1944

The year 1944 was one of parliamentary activities and propaganda against the Government.

On 6-1-1944 a private meeting of the important Congress leaders was held at Bangalore City under the presidentship of Mr. T.Subramanyam, the President of the Congress and discussed about the political situation in the State, the food situation and the bans on the Congress organisations in the State. They decided to form food committees in all the District and Taluk Headquarters and to enlighten the public on food problem vis-a-vis the Food Acquisition Order passed by the Government, and to secure the sympathy of the masses. During January and February 1944, a number of food conferences were organised and propaganda meetings were addressed by Congressmen on the food situation in the State, criticising bitterly against the food policy of the Government.

During March and April, propaganda meetings were held in several parts of the State requesting the public to vote for Congress candidates who would contest the elections to the District Boards in the State. During the meetings held at Shimoga and Shiralakoppa on the 4th and 5th April 1944, Messrs: T.Subramanyam and S.Nijalingappa made intemporate speeches for which they were administered warnings by the respective Deputy Commissioners.

Meanwhile, the Government announced the holding of fresh elections to the R.A. and L.C. As the Mysore Congress was still undecided whether they should contest the elections or not, in view of the ban imposed on the Congress organisation. The Congress leaders sought the adivice of Mahathma Gandhi in the matter. Mr. H.C. Dasappa interviewed Mahathma Gandhi at Panchgani

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who advised the Mysore Congress to devote their attention for the time being to parliamentary activities. Accordingly, the leaders of the Mysore Congress at a meeting held at Tumkur on 30-7-1944 decided to contest the elections to the Legislatures.

As the Congress organisations had been banned and as public meetings could not be organised under their auspices, the State Congress began to organise Workers' conferences throughout the State, wherein they gave vent to their feelings and carried on a pernicious propaganda against the Government regarding its food policy. They also canvassed votes for the Congress candidates who would stand for R.A. and L.C.

The following were some of the Congress workers' Conferences held during the latter part of 1944.-

Tumkur District Workers' Conference: 27-8-44: H.Siddiah.

Bangalore " " " 10-9-44: T.Siddalingiah.

Shimoga " " " 30-10-44: S.Rangaramiah.

Joint meeting of the Bangalore Dist. Congress workers and members of the R.A. Congress party of Bangalore Dt. 22-10-44: T.Siddalingiah.

Bangalore City Congress workers' meeting- 28-10-44: V.T.Bhashyam.

Mysore City Congress Workers' meeting: 3-11-44: Mrs.Yeshodara Dasappa.

Chitaldrug District " 18-11-44. - S.Nijalingappa.

Kolar " " 21-12-44. - V.Pattabhiraman.

At all these meetings the Congress members carried on intensive propaganda against the Government and bitter comments on its food policy.

On account of the continuous seditious speeches that were being delivered by Mr. T.Subramanya, the Government in their notification dated 1-11-1944 passed an order directing him to abstain from making public speeches for a period of six months. This order was bitterly criticised by the Congress leaders at various public meetings organised by them in connection with election propaganda.

During the Assembly Session in November 1944, Mr.V.Hanumanthiah staged walk-outs on the 13th and 16th, as a protest against the ruling

of the Dewan-President in disallowing certain adjournment motions brought by the Congress Party to discuss the new Harvest Order promulgated by the Government. His behaviour in the Assembly was very rude and anything but parliamentary.

...

1945.

The early part of 1945 was completely occupied by the Congress in election propaganda work. The Congress secured only 130 seats out of 310 in the R.A. and keen disappointment was felt at the low percentage of seats secured by the Congress. Similar disappointment was felt on the results of elections to the Legislative Council, where also they could not secure a majority.

In March 1945, Mr. T.Subramanyam released the correspondence that passed between him and the Government from January 1944, to Febry. 1945 regarding the removal of the ban on the Congress organisation, removal of disqualifications on certain persons, restoration of sanads etc. The General Secretary of the Congress while releasing the correspondence to the press observed that much water had flown between the Congress President and the Government but cleaned nothing.

On 30th April and 1st May, the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress met at the Congress Office and passed the following resolutions.-

1) Demanding the immediate release of Isoor and Sravanabelagola prisoners- especially the women prisoners.

2) Formation of a Sub-Committee to carry on actively the constructive programme of the Congress through the State.

3) Defining the goal of Mysore Congress as the achievement of Responsible Government.

4) Condemning various prohibitory orders and bans and demanding their withdrawal.

5) Condemning the food policy of the Government in the State

As the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress had been declared an unlawful association and the meeting was held in contravention of the Government Order No.619/CB. dated 9th August 1942, a case was registered by the Bangalore City Police against Messrs: T. Subramanya, K.T.Bhashyam, S.Nijalingappa, A.G.Bandi Gowda, M.Hutche Gowda, K.R.Madhava Rao, H.Siddiah, S.Channiah, K.Henjarappa, A.G.

Ramachandra Rao and H.Y.Veeranna Gowda, members of the Working Committee under Section 12(1) of the Mysore Police Act read with Sec.11 of the same Act. But the case was, however, withdrawn - as per Government Notification No.

Consequent on the relinquishment of presidentship by Mr. T. Subramanya and the election of Mr. S.Nijalingappa as President of the Congress and in view of the persistent demand from Congress - workers to hold a special session of the Congress, the same was - held at Tumkur on 15th,16th and 17th June, when several important resolutions were passed, the chief among them, relating to /- (1) the establishment of Responsible Government in the State and = (2) the removal of ban on Congress organisation and the withdrawal of probhitory orders. Some members suggested the immediate violation of the prohibitory orders, but the suggestion was not accepted. It was also decided to accelerate Congress propaganda in the State by the formation of District Congress Workers' Associations in place of District Congress Committees which were banned by the Government.

As Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy, a member of the Working Committee was continuously indulging in objectionable activities, the Government - passed an order on 15-8-45 under the Restriction & Detention Act (1945) restricting his movements to the Nagasandra village, Goribidnur - Taluk for a period of 6 months and prohibiting him from making public speeches etc. He was removed to Nagasandra village on the 18th; but as he immediately violated the order, he was arrested and prosecuted under section 2(6) of the Restriction & Detention Act by the Kolar - District Police. The case is still pending in Court.

In September 1945, the Mysore Congress leaders submitted a memorandum to the Indian National Congress leaders who had assembled for the AICC Session at Bombay stating that the prevailing "autocratic rule" in the State should be put an end to, and the States allowed to have representative Governments. They further suggested that the All-India - Congress leaders should do their utmost to safeguard the interests of the States' peoples by demanding that only elected representatives from the States should be sent to the proposed Constituent Assembly.

23.22

Sept 49

During the same month, the Government issued a notification cancelling their order declaring the All-India Congress Committee, the All-Mysore Congress Committee, the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress, the District & City Congress Committees as unlawful Associations. This enabled the Congress organisation to carry on their propaganda openly and on an intensive scale.

During October 1945 Mr. K.Hanumanthiah was prosecuted under Rules 34 & 38 of the Defence of India Rules for a seditious speech he made on 15-8-1945 at ~~Xxxx~~ Sagar. He was subsequently (on 14-11-45 convicted to one year's R.I. and the sentence was reduced to 6 months' R.I. on appeal.

On the 13th and 14th of the same month, the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress passed resolutions approving the "Quit India" resolution of August 1942, demanding immediate establishment of Responsible Government in the State, and that elected representatives of the States should go to the Constituent Assembly.

The A.M.C.C. (All-Mysore Congress Committee) Session which was held in November 1945 at Kyathanahalli ratified the above resolutions.

During the year, the labour situation in Kolar Gold Fields showed signs of deterioration. Consequent on the break-down of conciliation on the question of Service Gratuity, the workers of all the mines struck work from 21st May 1945. The strike continued peacefully and on the assurance given by the Government to establish an Arbitration Court to settle the dispute, the strike ended in the 3rd week of June 1945.

Another important development during the year was the organisation and growth of the Students' Congress in the State. The first Conference of the Bangalore Students' Congress was held on the 21st July 1945 at the Congress Office, Bangalore City, with Prof. N.G.Ranga, M.L.A.(Central) as President. Mr. Ranga made a vehement speech, appealing to the students to rally round the Indian National Congress in its fight for freedom.

The All-Mysore Students' Conference was held on 8th Decr.1945

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with Mr. Ashoka Mehta, a Congress Socialist of Bombay as President. Rao Saheb Achyut Patwardhan of Maharastra, who opened the Literary and Arts Exhibition which had been arranged as an adjunct, made a highly objectionable speech, for which he was proceeded - against under Rule 34 & 38 of the Defence of India - Rules. But the case was withdrawn on his tendering an apology.

S. Nalini Ranjan Das
24/8/1946.